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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/018,459

Confirmation No: 2524

Applicant

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Wolfgang STOECKLEIN et al.

Filed

:

March 12, 2002

TC/A.U.

2834

Examiner

Jaydi A. Aguirrechea

Docket No.

R.36138

Customer No.

02119

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 7, 2004

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed on October 14, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.